

## **Xeriscape**<sup>TM</sup>

- Residential outdoor watering of lawns and gardens can more than double the amount of water used inside the home, and is one of the first targets of conservation measures when water is in short supply.
- Xeriscape is a set of principles designed to create landscaping that requires less water and is more appropriate for the arid and semi-arid climates found in Colorado.
- The seven Xeriscape principles are:
  - Think and plan first Consider what needs you have for outdoor landscaping and create a plan that provides a beautiful environment and lets you use water more efficiently.
  - o <u>Limit turf</u> to areas where it will be beneficial and remove turf from areas where it provides little benefit.
  - o Select plants that require less water.
  - Amend soils since much of the soil found throughout Colorado make it difficult for plants to thrive.
  - Use mulches to retain soil moisture in gardens and reduce stress on plants.
  - <u>Use water efficiently.</u> Examine watering practices to see where overwatering occurs and use technology that loses less water during sprinkling.
  - o <u>Maintain landscaping properly.</u> Cutting grass too short and overgrowth of weeds are but two factors that can rob your landscaping of moisture.
- More information on Xeriscape and conservation can be found at www.xeriscape.com and www.crwcd.org/watmarks.